

Message Text

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ACTION DLOS-07

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 ARA-16 EA-11 EUR-25 NEA-14 RSC-01 ISO-00

CG-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-11 L-03 NSAE-00

NSC-07 PA-04 PRS-01 SP-03 SS-20 USIA-15 TRSE-00

ACDA-19 AEC-11 AGR-20 DOTE-00 CIEP-02 FMC-04 INT-08

CEA-02 OMB-01 OIC-04 AID-20 CEQ-02 COA-02 COME-00

EB-11 EPA-04 IO-14 NSF-04 SCI-06 DRC-01 /294 W

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FM AMEMBASSY CARACAS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4738

INFO AMEMBASSY CANBERRA

AMEMBASSY JAKARTA

AMEMBASSY MANILA

AMEMBASSY PORT LOUIS

USUN NEW YORK 6592

AMEMBASSY SUVA VIA POUCH

C O N F I D E N T I A L CARACAS 6592

FROM US DEL LOS

EO 11652: GDS

TAGS: PLOS

SUBJECT: LOS: ARCHIPELAGO DISCUSSIONS WITH MAURITIUS

1. JOHN NORTON MOORE AND ARCHIPELAGO TEAM MET 12 JULY
WITH GLOBER AND GAGEN OF MAURITIUS TO EXPLAIN US ARCHI-
PELAGO PROPOSAL AND FUNISH PAPER SUMMARIZING PROPOSAL.
MOORE INDICATED THOUGH MAURITIUS WOULD NOT QUALIFY UNDER
US PROPOSAL AS ARCHIPELAGO, AND HAD NO REALISTIC EXPECTATIONS
UNDER ARCHIPELAGO CONCEPT IN VIEW OF THEIR 1000-1 LAND
WATER RATIO. THEIR REAL RESOURCE CONCERNS, HOWEVER, COULD BE
TAKEN CARE OF BY 200 MILES PLUS EDGE OF MARGIN SOLUTION FOR
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SEABED RESOURCES. THEY HAD ALREADY SEEN US PAPER AND EXPECT

MEETING SHORTLY WITH INDONESIA, PHILIPPINES AND FIJI TO
DISCUSS US PAPER.

2. MAURITIUS APPEARED RESIGNED TO DIM CHANCES OF QUALIFYING
AS ARCHIPELAGO, AND AGREED THAT BEST OPPORTUNITY TO
MEET THEIR NEEDS WAS IN GAINING RESOURCE CONTROL OVER
MARGIN BEYOND 200 MILES. DECLARED HOWEVER THAT THEY MUST
KEEP THEIR OPTIONS OPEN, PARTICULARLY IN VIEW OF THEIR
MEMBERSHIP IN AFRICAN GROUP WHICH SUPPORTS ARCHIPELAGO
CONCEPT AND STRICT 200 MILE LIMIT. MOORE POINTED OUT
STRONG TREND TOWARD EDGE OF MARGIN NOTED SINCE KAPALA
DECLARATION, PARTICULARLY AMONG AFRICAN COASTAL STATES.

3. DURING DISCUSSIONS OF MAURITIUS PROBLEM USING CHARTS
PREPARED BY STATE GEORGRAPHER HODGSON, THEY SHOWED CONCERN
THAT ONE-TO-ONE MAXIMUM LAND-TO-WATER RATIO WOULD EXCLUDE
LIMITED SINGLE CLUSTER ARCHIPELAGO AROUND ISLAND OF
MAURITIUS AND NEARBY OUTLYING ISLANDS, BUT SEEMED SATISFIED
WHEN TOLD BY HODGSON DIFFERENT CONCEPT OF STRAIGHT BASE-
LINES WOULD ACHIEVE SIMILAR RESULT. THEY RECOGNIZED THAT
DELIMITATION WITH NEIGHBORING BRITISH INDIAN OCEAN
TERRITORIES WOULD BE COMPLEX PROBLEM WITH CONSIDERABLE
EFFECT ON THEIR RESOURCE AREAS.
STEVENSON

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